

Yes, the US gov't (through the FCC) should definitely apply the same standards on cable, satellite, and Internet delivered content that it now does on broadcast radio and TV. If it has sent to the public via any medium, it should not offend the general population.

These new mediums have effectively become the new public entertainment, news, information, and educational (Cable and satellite TV IS already widely used in public school classrooms) forum. Cable and Satellite are gradually replacing broadcast TV and broadcast radio.

The analogy is similar to the Shopping Malls gradually becoming the new American 'downtown'. Many state courts have already ruled that these public shopping places, although privately owned, are subject to many laws and regulations that govern the use of, and conduct within, other public spaces. Local public safety agencies generally have the ability to enforce public law in these 'private' shopping spaces. The same MUST be done for all forms of electronic content providers.

While we certainly want to insure compliance with the 1st Amendment of the US Constitution, lets just insure that that 'free speech; and open discourse is of a civil nature. Pornography and other indecent content are not needed, in any content, for those wishing to get their message to the public.

The only exception should be for one-up 'channels' that users must subscribe to separate from their basic and family packages. The alternative is to order these providers sell only ala-carte ordering of content - allowing anyone to not order whatever they find objectionable. The V-Chip and other parental blockers have not been, in my opinion, effective in keeping objectionable content away form youngsters. There just must be some enforced standards of decency in our society.

Respectfully Submitted, 15 March 2004